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May 22, 1974

State of  
Washington  
Department  
of Ecology



Kittitas County Health Department  
507 Nanum  
Ellensburg, Washington 98926

Attention: Mr. Andrew Bishop  
Director, Environmental Health

Dear Andy:

This letter is to confirm the inspection we conducted with you of the Kittitas County solid waste disposal site (Horlock) and the Ellensburg transfer station on May 21, 1974. From the observations of the situation, we offer the following comments for your consideration.

At the disposal site, there are still evidences of problems associated with the excessive runoff from the winter snow pack. Ponded water was observed next to the dike located at the lower end of the fill area. Portions of the dike wall have been severely eroded by the excessive runoff. In addition, the litter fence does not extend all the way across the lower end of the fill area.

We did note that a pump was being installed to drain the ponded water. Once the ground dries out, the lower portion of the fill should be utilized in order to remove any future problems with ponding and erosion of the dike walls. It is our understanding that the dike wall will be repaired and additional litter fencing will be installed this summer. Also, the diversion ditches needed to be upgraded to handle any future runoff problems.

At the Ellensburg transfer station, we noted that there is a considerable problem of windblown debris scattered about the area. Due to the persistent wind in the area, it will probably be necessary to enclose the unloading area to prevent debris from being scattered about. It is our understanding that the County is applying for a grant from our Department to assist in the financing of a building to be used for resource recovery and as a refuse unloading area.

We recognize that there are problems associated with the overall solid waste disposal system. We are also aware that the system became operational this last winter under very adverse weather conditions that created additional problems in the early development of the system. Even under ideal conditions there are discrepancies in any new system that have to be resolved.

In summary, it appears to our agency that Kittitas County is making a reasonable

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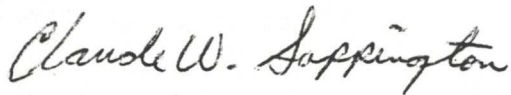
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effort to overcome the problems and deficiencies of their solid waste system. If the present efforts are continued, we feel that the system will soon be operating up to standards.

We trust that these comments will be of benefit to you. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



Claude W. Sappington

CWS:glc

cc: Clar Pratt - Yakima - Doe